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Preparatory Committee for the United Nations Conference on the Illicit Trade in Small Arms and Light Weapons in All Its Aspects

Working paper submitted by Canada on modalities for the participation of non-governmental organizations and civil society representatives

1. Members of non-governmental organizations (NGOs) and representatives of civil society may attend all open plenary meetings during the Preparatory Committee sessions and the Conference, in the public galleries provided for such purpose.

2. Members of NGOs and representatives of civil society who attend these meetings will have available to them all relevant documents of the Preparatory Committee and the Conference (either in written form, or in electronic form, where the documents are posted on the web site).

3. Members of NGOs and representatives of civil society may make available to delegates attending the Preparatory Committee sessions or Conference any documentary material that they wish to have distributed to delegates. For this purpose, a location will be identified near the site of the session where the NGO members or civil society representatives may leave a supply of their documentary material to be picked up by delegates.

4. NGOs and civil society groups, in the interest of greater elaboration of their views and perspectives, may jointly or individually organize briefing sessions for delegates during the Preparatory Committee session or Conference. (During open or closed plenary meetings, the Chair may advise delegations of these briefing sessions and invite them to attend them if they so desire.)

5. The Preparatory Committee may invite a representative of civil society to make a presentation to a formal or informal plenary meeting with a view to providing a civil society perspective to topics under consideration by the Committee.

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